

(absolute clerical rule), is the main apparatus of repression, the primary driver of war and export of terrorism, and responsible for pursuing nuclear weapons and missile projects. The IRGC also controls the lion's share of Iran's economy.

It is no wonder that the religious fascism ruling Iran, its apologists and mercenaries have become terrified of IRGC's designation.

Mrs. Rajavi emphasized that if the disastrous policy of appeasement had not provided so much freedom of action to the mullahs and the Revolutionary Guards over the past decades, the Iranian regime could not have caused so much bloodshed in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen and Afghanistan.

She emphasized that in the interest of the Iranian people as well as regional peace and security, the European Union must designate the Revolutionary Guards as a terrorist entity, adding that the ultimate solution to rid the world of the ruling theocracy in Iran is for the Iranian people and the Resistance to change the illegitimate caliphate, cloaked under the veneer of Shia and Islam.

On behalf of the Iranian Resistance which has called for an arms and oil embargo on Iran's religious dictatorship since 1981, Mrs. Rajavi reiterated the need to take the following measures:

1. Recognizing the right of the Iranian people and the Resistance to overthrow the ruling religious fascism and to establish freedom.
2. Placing the Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS) and other organs of suppression and export of terrorism and fundamentalism on State Department's FTO list as well as on the EU's terror watch list.
3. Expelling the agents of the MOIS and the terrorist Quds Force from the United States and Europe.
4. Referring the dossier on the Iranian regime's human rights violations and the massacre of political prisoners to the United Nations Security Council and the International Court of Justice.
5. Expelling the illegitimate clerical regime from the UN and recognizing the Iranian Resistance as the true representative of the Iranian people.
6. Evicting the Iranian regime and its forces from Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Lebanon and Afghanistan.

HONORING REVEREND DR. C. NATHAN EDWERS 30TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2019*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, It is my sincere honor to recognize a dear friend, Reverend Dr. Collie Nathan Edwers, who this year celebrates his 30th Pastoral Anniversary at the Friendship Worship Center in Mount Vernon.

Nathan, as he is best known, was born in Newark, New Jersey to the union of Bishop Collie Edwers and the late Mother Dorothy Edwers. He is the third child born to this family of seven. He was raised in the quiet suburban community of North Edison, New Jersey. He was educated in the Edison High School system until his parents relocated to Metuchen, New Jersey during his junior year of High

School. It was during this time of his adolescent years that Nathan felt and responded to the call of God on his life. At the age of sixteen, Nathan preached his initial sermon at St. Mark U.F.W. Baptist Church, the same church where his father baptized him.

Upon High School graduation, Nathan continued his education through the encouragement of his parents. Nathan was directed to pursue his undergraduate education at Northeastern Bible College in Essex Falls, New Jersey. During his senior year of study, Nathan was approached by the officers of Calvary U.F.W. Baptist Church to serve as their next Pastor. In May of 1983, Nathan was elected as their Pastor and assumed that responsibility on the Fifth Sunday. During this time Nathan decided against the advice of his father, to discontinue his education at Northeastern Bible College in order to move full attention to the Church. During his six years tenure as Pastor, Nathan was very fortunate to meet his darling wife, Aro Denise Harper. Out of this union were born two, children, Eric and Sherri. Both of his children are adults and are successful in their life choice career.

In January 1989, Nathan answered the call as the First Family of Little Friendship Unified Free Will Baptist Church. During his ministry at Friendship Church, the Lord added to his family his son, Eric Nathan Edwers. In October of 1997, Pastor Edwers began the process to acquire Temple Emanuel Jewish Center in Mount Vernon, which was up for sale. In January 1998 the church agreed to modify its name by removing the word "little" from its former name known as "Little Friendship Unified Free Will Baptist Church". Bishop Edwers led the church into a \$1.3 million dollar relocation expansion program, and on August 16, 1998 he marched the "Friendship Unified Free Will Baptist Church" and hundreds of friends into their new home, renamed the Friendship Worship Center in September 1998.

Madam Speaker, Friendship Worship has grown by leaps and bounds thanks to Nathan and Denise Edwers. On this special occasion, I want to congratulate the pastor on 30 wonderful years, and thank him for all he has done in the community.

IN MEMORY OF FR. IGNATIUS MATERNOWSKI, CHAPLAIN, 508TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT OF THE 82ND AIRBORNE

**HON. DANIEL MEUSER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2019*

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the sacrifice of Fr. Ignatius Maternowski, a Franciscan Friar Conventual and Chaplain to the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne during the Second World War. Fr. Ignatius is the only chaplain killed in action during the D-Day invasion in Normandy, France.

Fr. Ignatius and his regiment parachuted into Normandy at 1:30 a.m. on D-Day, June 6, 1944. In the ensuing days, he and the regiment moved through Normandy and he ministered to the wounded and dead in heavy hedgerow during the fighting. Fr. Ignatius was compassionate and steadfast in his ministry, successfully negotiating with German soldiers

to establish a joint aid station for both German and American soldiers. On June 13th, one week after landing in France, he was killed by a German sniper while trying to find a doctor to treat a wounded comrade.

Fr. Ignatius' story expresses the courage of the brave individuals who served, and who continue to serve, our country as military chaplains. These individuals share in the sacrifice of our men and women in the Armed Forces and on behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, and the constituents of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, I am proud to honor the heroism of one such as Fr. Ignatius Maternowski.

HONORING APRIL BLANKENSHIP

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2019*

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of April Blankenship, a long-time and outstanding staffer for the Committee on Ways and Means and my personal office, who passed away this morning.

April is a tireless, trusted colleague and a friend to so many. In her many years of service on Capitol Hill, she has been a key part of dozens of personal and committee offices, including both my personal office and the staff of the Committee on Ways and Means. She handled issues that involve sensitive personnel matters with grace, precision, confidentiality, and a deft personal touch. She dealt with numbers, but really what she managed was people—the people and committees that help run this place on behalf of taxpayers. And she did it all with a smile on her face and a joy for service. April is one of the true unsung heroes around these halls, and I am proud to call her a trusted colleague and friend.

Beyond her many professional skills and accomplishments, I know April is even more proud of her role as a mother. Whether helping her sons, Hunter, Dakota, and Tucker, sell Boy Scout candy to friends and colleagues or bragging on the boys' achievements in school or church groups, her smile told you all you needed to know—that she was an intensely proud mother, and rightfully so. She also invested her deep faith in her family, and I know that faith has helped maintain her through the years she has heroically battled her illness.

On behalf of the entire Committee on Ways and Means, I offer our sincerest condolences to Tim, Hunter, Dakota, Tucker and her entire family on April's passing. I thank them for sharing April with us for so many years of outstanding service to the Committee, its Members, and our great country.

HONORING PETER SWIDERSKI

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2019*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment to honor a dedicated public servant and good friend, Peter Swiderski. Peter served as Mayor of the Village of Hastings for many years, and his exceptional work will leave a lasting positive impact on the community.